My name is Kassie Miller and I am a 25 year old undergraduate student at Arizona State University. I was born in Granada Hills, CA in December 1986 and moved out to Arizona for the first time when I was 6 years old. I moved back to California in 1998 when I was 11 years old. I was there for all of middle school and my freshman year of high school and then returned to Arizona in 2000 to begin my sophomore year of high school at Skyline in east Mesa. I graduated from high school in May 2004 and began attending Scottsdale Community College that following August to pursue a degree in theatrical arts. Although I was deeply passionate about acting I decided to switch my major to something that would secure a career and a path for my future. I have always loved kids and knew my new major would be education. I stopped going to school for a short time and returned in fall semester of 2008. I graduated from Scottsdale Community College with my associates in Elementary Education in December of 2010 with high distinction.

I began attending Arizona State University in January of 2011 to pursue a dual certification in special and elementary education. I am currently in the first semester of my Senior Year Residency, student teaching in a K-3 resource classroom at Navarrete Elementary School in Chandler, AZ. I will begin my final semester as an undergraduate in July of 2012 which will include student teaching in a 5th grade general education classroom as well as taking 13 credit hours. I plan on graduating in December of 2012 with my bachelor’s degree in special and elementary education. As of right now I have a 4.0 GPA, am on the Dean’s List, and am a member of the Golden Key Honor Society. After graduation I plan on attending graduate school under the Master’s program in Curriculum & Instruction: Teaching and Learning - Applied Behavioral Analysis Concentration. I ultimately want to work as an applied behavioral analyst so as to better the lives of children with autism, TBI, and other traumatic disabilities. I am passionate about educating and working with families, doctors, and other professionals who work closely with children with behavioral disabilities; to be their voice when they cannot voice it themselves. This scholarship will bring me closer to my aspirations and life goals.